

ENERGY TIDBITS – June 2007

2008 Community Energy Project Grants will be available to non-profit and public agencies for the following categories: 1) Solar and/or wind energy education, 2) Bioenergy/biofuels/bioproducts education, 3) Green commuting projects, 4) Green building projects, and 5) Statewide energy conferences. Each project proposal can request up to \$6,000. The activities will cover one year from January 1 - December 31, 2008. It is expected that 20 projects will be funded. Deadline for proposals is September 7, 2007. To request the RFP contact sarverj@michigan.gov

2nd Annual Michigan Energy Fair will be held at the Manistee County Fairgrounds in Onkama on June 22, 12 n to June 24, 4 pm. Fair will include workshops, exhibits, home tours, Saturday kids activities, food, and music. Over 2500 persons enjoyed the Fair last year and learned about renewable energy and energy efficiency. www.glrea.org

Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero has signed the U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement and issued Executive Order 2007-1. The Order establishes new energy standards and practices for the City that are designed to reduce energy use by 10% and increase the use of renewable energy, such as converting the vehicle fleet to use ethanol and biodiesel. The Order establishes a Renewable Portfolio Standard that requires energy use by city government to include 10% renewables by 2010, 15% by 2015, and 20% by 2020.

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Conference will be held on June 14, 8:00-5:30 in Mackinaw City. The conference is designed for anyone who manages or constructs buildings and includes a tour of the Mackinaw wind turbines. www.nemcog.org

Stafford's Perry Hotel, located in Petoskey, has earned the first "Leader" certification in the Green Lodging Michigan program. The hotel's environmental initiatives include installing new high efficiency boilers and water heaters; developing a comprehensive recycling program in cooperation with Emmet County Recycling, and using low-flow faucets, showerheads, and fixtures to conserve water. Stafford's Perry Hotel also conducts employee training on environmental initiatives and educates the community about the hotel's environmental efforts. "We made the commitment to Go Green for many reasons, including lessening our negative impact on the environment and the long term savings we will achieve as a result of our conservation projects," said David P. Marvin, General Manager at Perry's Stafford Hotel. "We look forward to working with other hotels in Northern Michigan to help them get set up as well." <http://www.staffords.com/perry-hotel-4/>

Dave Wilson's Wind Energy Class at Lansing Community College has installed a 62" tall, 1.5 kW wind turbine at the West Campus. The Bergey XL was donated to LCC by the Seimens Corp. The system includes an inverter and a bank of 8

storage batteries and will power a classroom this fall.
http://www.lcc.edu/manufacturing/alternative_energy/

Solar Circle in Okemos works to provide solar ovens for Tanzania where women walk long distances for firewood. Judy Martin and friends enlisted MSU students to develop prototype ovens that could be built in Tanzania. Nine MSU students and their professor spent their spring break in Tanzania building and testing the prototype ovens with folks who will use them. The ovens cost about \$100 to build in Tanzania and sell for \$20. About 30 mid-Michigan organizations support the program and subsidize the ovens. www.solar-circle.org

Do-It-Yourself Home Energy Audits will be held on June 16, 1:00-4:00 PM at the Upland Hills Ecological Awareness Center in Oxford. info@uheac.org or (248) 693-1021

Majority of Consumers said they would pay more for clean energy because it is good for the environment, according to a recent survey conducted by the Energy & Resources industry group of Deloitte. 54% said they would pay more for alternative energy sources. When asked about the public benefits of the use of alternative energy sources, the respondents overwhelmingly said that the environment (86%), U.S. energy security (80%) and new job creation (76%) would benefit from alternative energy use. These consumers would also have no problem with alternative energy facilities within "sight of home" with 83% accepting wind farms and 86% accepting solar panels.
<http://www.deloitte.com/us/energy>

For the first time last year, more silicon in the U.S. has gone toward making solar panels than computer chips.

Michigan and 30 other states, representing over 70% of the U.S. population, have banded together to create a Climate Registry. The participating states see the creation of the registry, which is based on voluntary reporting of statewide emissions, as a necessary first step toward developing mandatory, federal regulations on global warming emissions. California has already taken the lead on reducing carbon emissions -- the state has legislated a mandatory 25% reduction by 2020.

Solar Photovoltaic Apprentice Training will be held on June 18-22 at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City. www.glrea.org

Governor Granholm has called for incentives that would encourage Michigan residents to harness the power of the sun, after praising a \$1 billion expansion by Hemlock Semiconductor Corp., a major supplier of solar materials. Hemlock officials joined Granholm in announcing an expansion of Hemlock's manufacturing plant on a 60-acre site -- a project that that could bring up to 500 jobs to Saginaw County. The expansion will allow the company to nearly double

its production of polycrystalline silicon by 2010. There have been worldwide shortages of that material, which is a key component of photovoltaic cells. "What we need to do is take a hard policy look at providing incentives for the use of these solar panels in Michigan," Granholm told The Detroit News. "In Germany they created 170,000 jobs by changing the incentives for the use of wind and solar. We ought to be doing the same thing in Michigan." Among the incentives Granholm would consider is stronger net metering incentives.

Michigan Energy Appraisal: Summer 2007 has been released by the MPSC. Relatively high gasoline prices are expected to continue in Michigan this summer and across the nation. Electric power supplies should be adequate to meet the peak summer air conditioning season.
www.dleg.state.mi.us/mpsc/reports/energy/07summer/index.htm

"Michigan at a Climate Crossroads: Strategies for Guiding the State in a Carbon-Constrained World" finds the state could add \$380 million a year in revenue and 3,400 full-time jobs to the economy by 2025 while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Based on computer-modeling studies, the report concludes that Michigan can reduce carbon dioxide emissions and other greenhouse gases 12% by 2025 while fueling job creation and economic growth. Enacted separately, these policies could result in the following economic impacts by 2025: 1) 20% Renewable Portfolio Standard could add \$64.6 million annually to the state's economy and create 881 jobs. 2) 25% Renewable Motor Fuel Standard - 1,700 jobs and \$283 million 3) Building Codes - 644 jobs and \$54 million, and 4) Appliance Standards - 437 jobs and \$38.3 million.
Full Report: http://css.snre.umich.edu/css_doc/CSS07-02.pdf

Renewable Energy Workshop: Building a Solar Panel System will be held on Saturday, June 9, 9 am – 1 pm at Pierce Cedar Creek Institute in Hastings.
www.cedarcreekinstitute.org

Ann Arbor Energy Commission is seeking comments on a proposed green building awards program. The Energy Challenge Awards Program will recognize leaders in energy efficiency and renewable energy use in local buildings. A draft document will be posted June 14 at www.a2gov.org/energy

New Visual Model of methanol plant has been developed through collaborative efforts of Gas Technologies, LLC, Michigan Small Business Technology Development Center, and M-TEC at Bay College.
<http://mtec.baycollege.edu/train/gas-techno.pdf>

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